K0600.0208/P208

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shiro Fujieda

Application No.: 09/445,304

Filed: December 6, 1999

Art Unit: 2623

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD, MEDIUM STORING

PROGRAM FOR IMAGE PROCESSING,

AND INSPECTION APPARATUS

Examiner: V. Kibler

MAY 2 5 2004

Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated December 19, 2003 (Paper No. 16), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.

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